CHICAGOLAND CHAPTER B.C.A.

P.O. BOX 6660

VILLA PARK, IL 60181-6660



April 2009

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CHICAGOLAND CHAPTER, BUICK CLUB OF AMERICA

Monthly Meeting—except January The first Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the VILLA PARK MASONIC LODGE, 26 W. Central, Villa Park, IL

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National BUICK CLUB WEBSITE ADDRESS www.buickclub.org

CHICAGOLAND CHAPTER WEBSITE ADDRESS

www.buickclub.org/chicagoland/

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The FIREBALL FLASH is published monthly by the Chicagoland Chapter, Buick Club of America, Inc., a nonprofit corporation solely for the use and enjoyment of its members and to present a forum for the communication of Chapter and Regional news, as well as the personal stories of the staff and contributors. The Chicagoland Chapter does not endorse or warrant opinions or information contributed by any individual.



Greetings from Your Director:

Now that I have my first meeting as your Director behind me, I look forward to providing time for us to enjoy sharing our hobby interests with each other. I enjoyed seeing a good turnout at our March meeting including a few members that have not attended for awhile. I want to thank John Arpan, John & Marlene Tust, and Scott Mich for helping to make our Model Car and Automobilia night a big success.

March is a very busy month for our chapter. This past Saturday over a dozen members and guests had a chance to visit two outstanding facilities. First, Borowski Race Engines provided an excellent tour of what they do to Until next time, build high performance race engines in addition to rebuilding a stock engine for a restoration. After enjoying a wonderful lunch at Williamson's Restaurant in New Lenox, we were warmly welcomed to Carriage House Res-

torations by The McCauley's. Their clean, spacious, well equipped shop definitely is worth considering if you need work done on your collector car or even your daily driver.

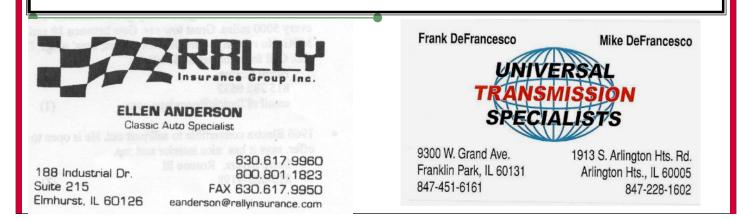
On March 29, our chapter will need everyone's help to make this year's sponsorship of the BOPC Swap successful for us. Please contact Bob Bezingue or myself if you can help on Saturday afternoon or Sunday. Even if you plan on attending as a spectator, try to give some time to man our chapter table to recruit new members. I hope to see all of you at our April 1 chapter meeting, so I can report to you on the BOPC.

Jim Bloomstrand

Spring Tour

Northern Indiana

When: April 25 & 26 Where: Meet @ Lincoln Oasis on I-80 at 7:45 am Maps: provided at Lincoln Oasis Museums: ??????. Hudson, Studebaker, Menno-Hof Food: Between the Buns, Blue Gate Inn, & Tippecanoe Place Shopping: the Old Bag Factory, Dad's Toys, & Craft Barn Farmstead Inn, call: 260-768-4595 for reservations (Limited rooms available) Motel: Jim Bloomstrand, call: 708-212-6224 Contact:



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2009 Calendar

CHICAGOLAND

MARCH

- 15 Peotone Car Club Swap Meet, Will County Atrium, Will Cty Fairgrounds, Peotone, IL. Call 708-258-6920
- 29 Buick-Olds-Pontiac-Cadillac Swap Meet at the DuPage County Fairgrounds—hosted by the Chicagoland BCA Chapter

APRIL

- CCBCA Chapter Meeting—At the lodge in Villa Park
- 19 North IL WPC Club—car show and swap meet. Larry Roesch Chrysler, 200 W. Grand Ave., Elmhurst, IL Call Guy at 630-721-0062
- 25, Spring Jefferson Swap and Car Corral—JeffersonCounty Fairgrounds, Jefferson, WI. Call 608-244-8416
- 25, CCBCA Spring Tour— Shipshewana Inn and sur-
- 26 rounding area. Then, Hudson and Studebaker nuseum con the 26th. Contact Jim Bloomstrand (see page 2)
- 28 CCBCA Steering Committee Meeting. Planning meeting for the club officers. Everyone invited. At Russell's BBQ on Algonquin Rd. Contact Jim Bloomstrand or any club officer (see the front page for contact info)

MAY

- 3 AACA Grayslake Car Show and Swap Meet
- 6 CCBCA Chapter Meeting—FOOD Pantry Night; bring a donation
- 9 CCBCA Spring Dust-Off car show; At Crossroads Buick-Chevrolet in West Chicago, IL
- 12- 28th Annual GS Nationals-Bowling Green, KY
- 16
- 14- AACA (Antique Auto Club) Tour to Auburn, IN

17

JUNE

- 3 Chapter Meeting—Old Car Nite. Drive your antique or collector car to the meeting. Any make.
- 3- Skylark Nationals—contact Art Lostumo, Jr. (see ad6 in this Flash)

2009 Heartland Regional

August 13-15, Appleton, WI.

- Host Hotel is the Holiday Inn at 150 Nicolet Road, Appleton, WI., 54914
- Hotel Phone 920-735-9955

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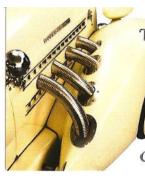
- Show information, contact Fred Pennings 2201 Kavanaugh Rd. Kaukauna, WI 54130
- 920-427-9368 (cell) 920-766-1333 (home)
- Or email FPennings@New.rr.com

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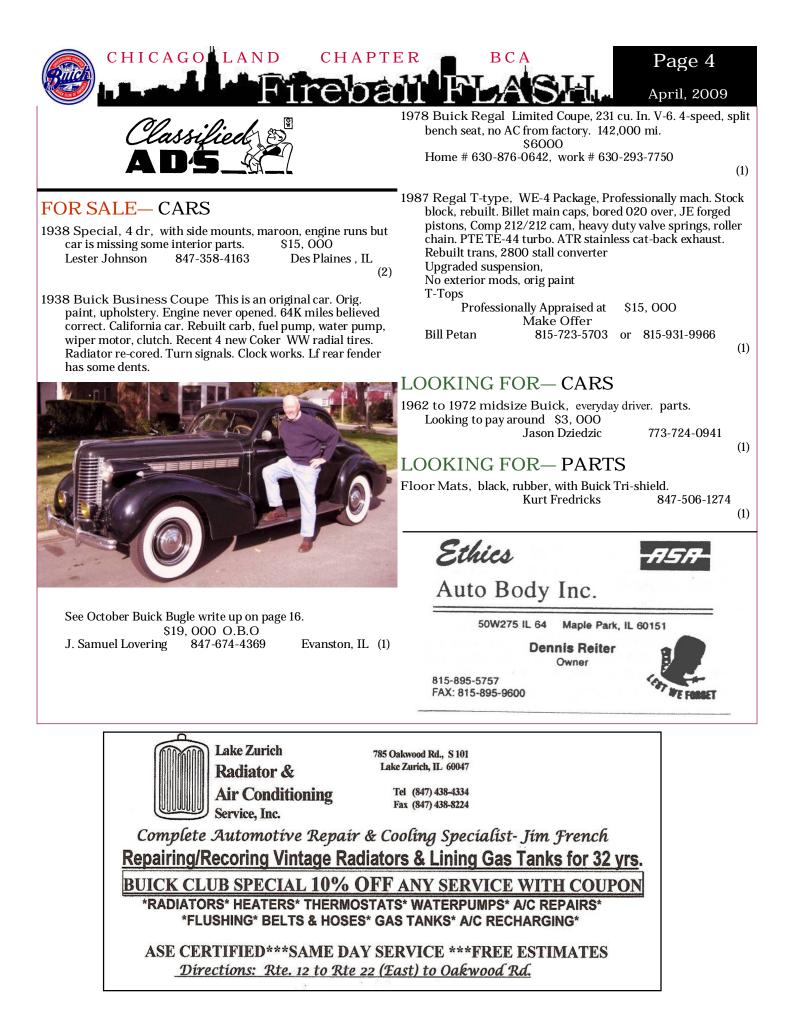
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CHAPTER

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April 20 Tina FedoraApril 30 Lucrecia TarpeyImage: Physical and the second and the		Н	appy Birt	chday	Attention!
April 7Carmen CorvinoApril 26John ArpanApril 8Rick SchickApril 26John GeussApril 15John LebetskiApril 27Richard OlsonApril 20Tina FedoraApril 30Lucrecia TarpeyImage: Construct SchickMarian EiseleApril 1Richard & Marian EiseleApril 1Richard & Marian EiseleApril 4George & Celine VorisApril 5Angelo & Louise SchillaciApril 8Richard & Debra HolmesApril 8Richard & Debra HolmesApril 11Curt & Corrine FredricksApril 15Ken & Carole NagelLooking for 50 cars, so Drive, push, pul 1April 16John & Marlene TustApril 24Bill & Charlene KubikApril 26Wolter & Clarie BaurghContact: Art Lostumo jr., 847-455-9119	April 6	Warren Ramsey	April 23	Art Lostumo, Jr.	'53-'54 SKYLARK MEET
	April 7 April 8 April 15 April 20 April 20 Apri Apri Apri Apri Apri Apri Apri Apri	Carmen Corvinc Rick Schick John Lebetski Tina Fedora Happy il 1 Ric il 4 Cha il 4 Geo il 5 Ang il 8 Ric il 8 Ron il 11 Cur il 15 Ker il 16 Joh il 24 Bill	April 26 April 26 April 27 April 30 Anniversal hard & Marian arles & Tina Ma orge & Celine Vo gelo & Louise So hard & Debra H a & Barbara Wa t & Corrine Fre a & Carole Nage an & Marlene Tu & Charlene Ku	John Arpan John Geuss Richard Olson Lucrecia Tarpey CU Eisele tthews oris chillaci Holmes ashington edricks el ust	the LAKE FOREST HILTON GARDEN INN

CHICAGOLLAND

 \checkmark CLASSIC and ANTIOUE BUICK CAR SHOW ☆ ☆ Hosted by the Chicagoland Chapter Buick Club $\stackrel{\land}{\land} \stackrel{\land}{\land} \stackrel{\land}{\land}$ SATURDAY, MAY 9th 10 AM to 3 PM CROSSROADS ☆ ☆ **Chevrolet Buick** ☆ 330 E. Roosevelt Rd., West Chicago, IL ☆ ☆ Registration at the show from 10 to 11 AM ☆ ☆ Don Adams @ 708-535-3044 contact: ☆ Scott Mich @ 312-316-5435 \mathbf{x} or ☆ Multiple Classes & Awards - Best of Show Award $\frac{1}{2}$ Dash Plagues to first 75 entrants ☆ no trailers, PLEASE! ☆ CHAPTER 👝

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Minutes by Brad

CHICAGO.

March 4, 2009

LAND



Meeting called to order by our new illustrious Director – <u>Jim Bloomstrand</u> at 7:36 PM.

Guests this evening were Richard Sima who owns a '63 LaSabre, (2) '85 LaSabre (coupe & 4 dr), and a '95 Roadmaster.

Jason Dziedzic signed up to become our newest member and is looking for a 1962-1972 midsize Buick to use as a daily driver. His father Dan is already a member and owns a '52 Special and '70 Electra.

Joe Petrik is reported to be a bit under the weather, but we're sure he'll be back soon. It was good to see Larry Driscoll and John & Carolyn Kozar at the meeting.

The February minutes were accepted by Rick Schick and John Kozar.

Bob Bezingue spoke about the upcoming BOPC and asked members present to sign up to work by filling out the sheet in the back of the room. At this time we have 100 vendor spots sold and 20 open. They cost \$35 each. Bob emphatically stated that we need members to help with bringing in vendors Saturday night 3/28 and for security detail on Sunday 3/29. Hours for vendor setup are: Sat. 6-9 PM and Sun. 6-8 AM. Members are also needed at the CCBCA table to try and attract new members.

Steve Kelly needs a trailer to haul carts that assist in moving vendors in/out and help people carry away large items purchased. (One will be rented for \$75 if a complimentary one can't be found).

Rick Schick gave treasurers report. See details inside Flash. Rick has also finished putting together the new roster and brought a copy for those present to check their information.

Steve Ledger asked the audience who plans on going to the BCA Nats. and said he's trying to put together some Chicagoland tours including a Railway Tour for \$35, Air Force Academy, and Royal Gorge.

The Heartland Regional is in Appleton, WI Aug. 13-15. The local folks need help from our chapter and Schick & Kelly voted for running the registration table.

Brad Berger reported everything is ok with the Secretary.

Steve Kelly said we received a *Thank You* card from the Food Pantry for the \$100 cash and food he dropped off in Feb.

BCA

Scott Mich reminded everyone about the upcoming Winter Tour March 7th and mentioned flyers are in the back of the room.

Loyd Bonecutter reminded everyone that the annual GS Chili Cookoff is March 8th @ 10 AM in Franklin Park. (Note: Brad Berger & Steve Kelly tied for 5th Place)

April 1 is our next meeting. April 19^{th} is the Larry Roesch car show & swap meet in Elmhurst. April 25-26 is our Spring Tour. Our May 6^{th} meeting is a Food Pantry night. Read Flash for more event details.

Larry Claypool was our guest speaker and gave a very interesting slide show on a trip he and his family took to Europe a few years ago. It included a visit to the VW plant, museums, high-speed train (200 MPH), and many beer halls. We definitely saw cars and trucks (and beer) that most, if not all of us have never heard of much less seen.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:00 PM and there was no raffle.

Brad

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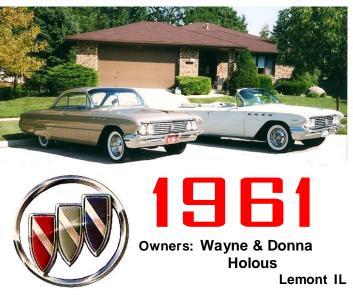
Member profile of the Month by John Arpan

CHICAGOLAND



Chicagoland Buick Club member Wayne Holous has been a collector of antique cars for more than a quarter century. Over the years he acquired a particular fondness for the beautifully sculptured styling introduced by Buick in 1961. Wayne liked the leaner 1961 styling so much that he has acquired three outstanding examples; a LaSabre bubble coupe; a LaSabre convertible and an Electra 225 convertible which are all in pristine condition. The stylish dashboard design is a favorite with Wayne because of how it incorporates a unique adjustable mirror system that reflects the image of the speedometer directly to the height the driver is sitting at. The speedometer itself is actually mounted so it looks straight upward and is unreadable without the mirror. The smooth positive transmission of power by Dynaflow is also one of the things he likes best about his Buicks. Dynaflow is unique among all the transmissions he has driven and is the reason his 61 Buick's are among his favorite cars to drive both around town and on the highway.

Wayne purchased his White Electra Convertible with tan leather interior from Ted Barkei, a long time Chicagoland BCA member. He first saw the car when Ted drove the Electra to the club spring dust off at Bauer Buick



just after completing a full restoration. Wayne had heard of the show from the Service manager of the dealer so he decided to take a drive to see his first Buick club show. When he pulled in the lot his eye drew immediately to the beautiful Electra convertible with a for sale sigh in the window and he was instantly smitten. After the usual test drive, negotiations and checking with the boss (Donna) the car was his. Since purchasing the car all Wayne has done is add dual exhausts, skirts and period correct wide white wall radial tires which he ended up doing to all his 61 Buick's.

Wayne's 61 LaSabre bubble coupe is a Chicago area car that has only 36K original miles. It was owned by a salesman who drove his company car most of the time and kept the Buick parked in the garage.

One day while working in the yard Wayne spotted out of the corner of his eye what looked like a 61 Buick drive past his house so he quickly jumped in his car and gave chase. To his surprise it was a friend of his who had recently purchased the 61 LaSabre. Wayne liked the car so much he told his friend that if he ever wanted to sell it, to look him up. His friend was a street rodder and Wayne (Continued on page 8)



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MEMBER PROFILEWayne & DonnaHolous(Continued from page 8)

CHICAGOLLAND

knew that he never kept anything more than 6 months so he was hoping his friend would remember his offer. Almost 6 months to the day, his friend called and asked him if he was still interested. There was no hesitation on Wayne's part and a deal was struck. He made his usual additions of skirts, wide white radials and dual exhausts but on this car he also put on a pair of smitty mufflers for a more mellow sound. The car is showroom fresh and Wayne says pickup is strong even though it has the smaller 364 cu. in. 2bb engine.

Wayne's third 61 Buick is a beautiful light tan LaSabre convertible with two-tone brown interior, which he purchased from former Chicagoland BCA member Harold Lockhart. As with the other cars, timing was everything and Wayne just happened to be at the Realto Theater cruise night in Joliet when Harold pulled in and put a for sale sign in the window. Harold was moving to Florida and wanted to sell the car before he relocated. The car was drawing a lot of attention at the cruise night so Wayne had to act fast and put down a deposit right then and there. It was a great find of another pristine Buick and it came with a garage full of parts. This LaSabre had Buick's 250 hp 364 nailhead with 2bb and ran silky smooth with plenty of pickup.

Wayne's collection also includes five 1950 Oldsmobiles, a 1951 Mercury and a 1950 Pontiac all of which would look at home in a new car showroom back in the 50's. Through all Wayne's car adventures his wife Donna has been by his side. Donna is the perfect car nuts wife who really enjoys and gets into the hobby. She goes to all the car events and is the one who finds most of the parts they need at swap meets.

-John Arpan

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Literature and Model Collection Night at March Meet

For the March, the club encouraged members to bring out their collectible literature and models for display.

All types of automobilia is welcome, not just Buick-related. John Tust and Jim Bloomstrand displayed some of their collections. And John Arpan (not shown –sorry John!) had rare literature.



BCA

John Tust described models that he purchased and also some unique models that he made.





John Tust made a model of Bill and Merri Cowell's '69 Wildcat. Compare it to the real thing on the right.

Director Jim Bloomstrand showed many interesting items, including a rare Texaco toy filling station and a VERY rare, highlydetailed, Chinesemade model of a 1910 Buick.





CCBCA March Shop Tour



–On March 7th the club visited 2 shops and, of course, 1 restaurant.

We met at Borowski Race

Enterprises at 10:00 am. Borowski Race is located at 1545 Mound Road in Rockdale. It is located slightly southeast of I-80 and I-55 just outside of Joliet (815-725-2727)

Borowski, in business since 1968, is a high performance race engine builder, and offers restoration of engines, nitrous, turbo charged and supercharged engines. They sell crate engines, offer dyno testing, and also offer complete engine machining services. Note that they also rebuild engines to stock specifications. In fact, while we were there, we observed both high performance V-8 race engines and also some stock 4 cylinder engines awaiting rebuild.

The machinist who was our host gave a complete tour of the shop and explained both the operation that is done to the cylinder head, crank, or block, but he also described how the machine tools operated. Many of Borowski's machines are of an older vintage than the modern computer-controlled equipment in high-end

and you have to start over or scrap the crank.

The dynomometer room was shown, but unfortunately the dyno was not running because a customer's engine that was slated for the dyno run was taking down and rebuilt with larger connecting rod bolts per the customer;s request. The technician said that the dyno can handle up to 1800 HP, but when an alchohol race engine of nearly that horsepower was run, it nearly lifted



Cranks lined up in front of the balancing machine

itself off the floor—and made the operator standing a few feet away rather nervous.



Borowski Tech explains the operations performed on the race engine to the Chicagoland members.

shops, but this provides the advantage of greater flexibility in the hands of Borowski's experienced staff. For example, the crank balancing setup looks deceivingly simple, but it takes a practiced hand to know where to add and subtract weight. Make a mistake, Borowski can handle just about any rebuilding job, old or new, although they mentioned that they concentrate on race and older stock rebuilds because it is more cost effective to replace rather than rebuild the modern heads or small displacement aluminum engines blocks.



Sandy Skinner, office staff, one of our gracious hosts for the tour at Borowski

Hey—All this Engine Stuff Makes Me Hungry....

The lunch stop was at Williamson's Restaurant & Bar at 12 Noon. Williamson's is located at 1490 W. Maple Street, New Lenox. Then, it was on to the next shop......

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April, 2009

CCBCA Shop Tour

CARRIAGE HOUSE AUTOMOTIVE RESTORATIONS

March 7th

(Continued from page 9)

The 3rd stop was Carriage House Auto Restorations in New Lenox.

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Carriage House is a complete auto restoration shop, specializing in body-off frame restorations, engine & chassis rebuilding, and complete metal fabricating services.

Owner Bill and Pam McCauley opened the shop the CCBCA members. There was no guided tour, but we were allowed to roam the shop and ask the staff on hand any question regarding restoration techniques or inquire about the cars already on the floor.

There was a Model A, a '57 Eldorado, several late '50's Fords, 2 Continentals, and even a few late-model cars undergoing



work. Yes, late model; the shop takes on additional jobs to help pay the bills.

Flawless '65 Continental hides a '48-49 Caddy with late-model V-8 installed



'56 Ford separated from its frame (in the foreground) This was an older, amateur restoration getting upgraded. The nice body hid a frame weakened by rust.

Cars and frames are chemically stripped at an outsourced vendor, then brought back for all necessary metal shaping and welding. Frames are powder coated. Primer is sprayed with the body on a rotisserie to ensure complete coverage. Bake-oven spray booths are used to finish coat. The shop has a wellequipped paint mixing and colormatching setup.

The Chicagoland Chapter would like to thank Bill and Pam, along with Metal Tech's James Schouten and Dave Iverson, paint tech. Kevin Kaplinski, and canine "manager" Lucky McCauley (the dog), who had the most fun of all.



BCA

Owner Bill McCauley discusses painting processes with BCA members



CCBCA visitors roamed freely and posed plenty of questions to the helpful staff.

Carriage House Automotive Restorations 22002 S. Howell Drive, New Lenox, Illinois 60451 Phone 888-485-6645 email : carriagehauto@sbcglobal.net

